



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2013-0115]

**Notice of Application for Approval of Discontinuance or
Modification of a Railroad Signal System**

In accordance with part 235 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations and 49 U.S.C. 20502(a), this document provides the public notice that by a document dated October 7, 2013, Norfolk Southern Corporation (NS) petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval for the discontinuance or modification of a signal system. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2013-0115.

Applicant: Norfolk Southern Corporation

Mr. Brian L. Sykes

Chief Engineer C&S Engineering

1200 Peachtree Street, NE

Atlanta, GA 30309

NS seeks approval of the proposed discontinuance of automatic signals and the installation of cab signals without wayside signaling between Control Point (CP) Kiski, Milepost (MP) LC 47.8, and CP Penn, MP LC 77.9, on the Conemaugh Line, Pittsburgh Division. CP Kiski, CP Harris, CP Beale, CP Sharp, and CP Etna will be upgraded from existing, legacy, relay-based signal systems to electronic-based signal systems. Cab signals will be installed and the automatic color light signals at MPs LC 53.9, LC 57.1,

LC 63.1, LC 64.7, LC 67.6, and LC 75.1, will be removed. “Block Clear” signals will be provided at all CPs in the event of an onboard cab failure while in route.

The reason given for the proposed changes is to facilitate train moves and eliminate any potential nonconformity between the wayside signals and cab signal. Also, since Positive Train Control is installed on this line, there will not be different signal systems competing with each other.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at www.regulations.gov and in person at the U.S. Department of Transportation’s (DOT) Docket Operations Facility, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., W12-140, Washington, D.C. 20590. The Docket Operations Facility is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing in connection with these proceedings since the facts do not appear to warrant a hearing. If any interested party desires an opportunity for oral comment, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number and may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- Web site: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- Fax: 202-493-2251.
- Mail: Docket Operations Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., W12-140, Washington, D.C. 20590.

- Hand Delivery: 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., Room W12-140, Washington, D.C. 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received by [INSERT DATE 45 DAYS FROM PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE] will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable.

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of any written communications and comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). See <http://www.regulations.gov/#!privacyNotice> for the privacy notice of regulations.gov or interested parties may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the Federal Register published on April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19477).

Robert C. Lauby,
Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety,
Chief Safety Officer.